

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

3/28/80

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

8121

PAGE 01
ACTION ARA-15

BUENOS 02664 310622Z

AT 170

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-05 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /065 W
-----128117 310659Z /21

R 281354Z MAR 80
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4825

BUENOS AIRES 2664

E.O. 12065: GDS 3/27/86 (FRIEDMAN, TOWNSEND B.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM AR
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SMITH'S MEETING WITH HUMAN RIGHTS
GROUPS

1. -ENTIRE TEXT)

2. AMBASSADOR SMITH ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR CASTRO
AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER MET WITH TWO HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS
MARCH 26 AT THE EMBASSY. SEPARATE MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE
MAYO.

3. THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES (MILIO MIGNONE
AND FATHER ENZO GIUSTOZZI), WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING SOME
PROGRESS IN HUMAN RIGHTS, CONCENTRATED ON EXPLAINING TO
AMBASSADOR SMITH THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT THE PRESENT. THESE
CONCERNS FOCUSED CHIEFLY ON THEIR BELIEF THAT BOTH THE
DOCTRINE AND THE INSTRUMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GROSS
VIOLATIONS OF THE PAST REMAIN IN PLACE TO BE USED WHEN AND
HOW THE GOVERNMENT WANTS. THEY DEVELOPED THEIR FAMILIAR
PRESENTATION THAT THE VIOLATIONS IN ARGENTINA WERE
CONDUCTED AS OFFICIAL ACTS OF POLICY RATHER THAN BEING
THE WORK OF OUT-OF-CONTROL GROUPS. THEY STATED THAT
UNTIL ARGENTINA RETURNS FULLY TO THE RULE OF LAW THE
HUMAN RIGHTS OF ARGENTINES WILL NOT BE SECURE. THEY
ALSO SAID THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO REFUSE
TO GIVE AN ACCOUNTING OF THE FATE OF THE DISAPPEARED
THE ANGER AND FRUSTRATION OF THE FAMILIES AFFECTED MAY
ONLY LEAD TO FURTHER VIOLENCE.

4. THE MOTHERS TRACED FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH THE HISTORY
OF THEIR PROBLEM. IT WAS CLEAR TOO THAT THEY WERE
SEEKING ASSURANCE THAT THE USG HAD NOT ABANDONED ITS
COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION. AMBASSADOR
SMITH AND AMBASSADOR CASTRO REAFFIRMED PRESIDENT
CARTER'S POLICY ON THIS ISSUE, AS THEY HAD DONE IN THEIR
EARLIER MEETING WITH THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES.
CASTRO

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

85D366

54-91-0190